

Remarks

This Amendment is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination ("RCE"). Reconsideration and allowance of this application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 6, and 16 have been amended. Claims 1-17 remain pending in the application. Claims 1, 6, and 16 are independent. The sole rejection is respectfully submitted to be obviated in view of the amendments and remarks presented herein. No new matter has been introduced through the foregoing amendments.

Claim 1 has been amended to even more particularly define the printing plate positions that are determined by the sensors of the register devices, and that are thus capable of being adjusted. That is, instant claim 1 defines an embodiment of the invention having "register devices that determine a *peripheral position and an axial position* of the printing plates with respect to one another." Accordingly, claim 1 also includes the feature that "drives of the mandrels or the print cylinders are controllable using said control signals such that *at least one of the peripheral position and the axial position* of the mandrels or the print cylinders in relation to one another is changed and a register accuracy of the print increases." Support for the instant recitation is found in the disclosure at, for example, the paragraph bridging specification pages 4/8 and 5/8, i.e., "for determining the angle position of the printing plate support in the

peripheral direction (longitudinal register) and the axial position of the printing plate support on the print cylinder and/or on the mandrel (transverse register)."

Independent claims 6 and 16 have been amended in a manner that parallels the amendment of claim 1. Entry of each of the amendments is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) – Ikeda and Dimyan

Claims 1-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 1205300 of Ikeda et al. (hereinafter "Ikeda") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,176,404 to Dimyan et al. ("Dimyan").

The rejection of claims 1-17 under § 103(a) based on Ikeda and Dimyan is respectfully deemed to be obviated. For at least the reasons presented in Applicants' Amendment filed March 26, 2009, and for the following reasons, the combined disclosures of Ikeda and Dimyan would not have rendered obvious Applicants' presently claimed invention.

As indicated above in the introductory remarks, instant claim 1 defines an embodiment of the invention having "register devices that determine *a peripheral position and an axial position* of the printing plates with respect to one another."

The combined disclosures of Ikeda and Dimyan do not teach all of Applicants' presently claimed features. As explained in

Applicants' Amendment filed March 26, 2009, Ikeda discloses a rotational phase difference detecting system for detecting a rotational phase difference between a plurality of cylinders for (horizontal) registering in offset printing presses (column 3, paragraph [0017]). For this reason *color marks* are applied on the cylinders involved in the printing process. The color marks can be detected by *color mark sensors*. By the comparison of the different revolutions of these different cylinders per time unit, a phase difference between these cylinders can be calculated by a calculating section (column 5, paragraph [0026]).

Applicants' claimed invention, however, is a multi-color printing machine with a register device (6, 7, 8) having sensors (3) that determine the peripheral position and the axial position of the printing plate carrier (1) in the printing machine. For this purpose the cylinders involved in the printing process include information carriers (2) (here, in one embodiment, a "sequence of magnetizable individual elements") that can be read out by a sensor (3). The corresponding cylinder peripheral position and axial position can be calculated (and corrected, if required) by a control device.

Ikeda's rotational phase difference detecting system is only able to detect and correct the *phase difference* between the cylinders. Applicants' claimed device is able to detect and correct the peripheral position and the axial position of the cylinders. To obtain the peripheral and axial position data, a

special information carrier - in one embodiment of the present invention, the claimed "sequence of magnetizable individual elements" - is utilized.

Ikeda, therefore, fails to teach important features of Applicants' claimed machine, i.e., the claimed "register devices that determine a *peripheral position and an axial position* of the printing plates with respect to one another," and that the "drives of the mandrels or the print cylinders are controllable using said control signals such that *at least one of the peripheral position and the axial position* of the mandrels or the print cylinders in relation to one another is changed and a register accuracy of the print increases."

The disclosure of Dimyan does not rectify the above-described deficiencies of Ikeda. Dimyan is directed to a data storage tape with a magnetic bubble domain memory structure (column 3, lines 42), but not to any application of that memory structure.

Furthermore, there is simply no teaching in either of the references that would have led one to select the references and combine them in a way that would produce the embodiment of the invention defined by Applicants' instant claim 1. In fact, Applicants again respectfully submit that the asserted combination of references is an unlikely one because it results in a technically incompatible combination. Combining the teachings of Ikeda and Dimyan would not lead to Applicants' claimed invention

because the color-mark-sensor of Ikeda is not capable of the readout of the topological information of Dimyan's storage tape.

Since "one of ordinary skill in the art" for the subject matter of the instant invention would be someone who has skills in the art of printing machines, he would not necessarily also be skilled in the art of magnetic bubble memory structure. Therefore, he would not apply the teaching of Dimyan to a printing machine according to Ikeda.

Accordingly, the combined disclosures of Ikeda and Dimyan would not have rendered obvious the invention defined by Applicants' instant claim 1. Claims 2-5 and 9-15 are allowable because they depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1, and for the subject matter recited therein.

Independent claims 6 and 16 have been amended in a manner that parallels the amendment of claim 1. Therefore, claims 6 and 16, and their associated dependent claims, are similarly allowable.

In view of the foregoing, this application is now in condition for allowance. If the examiner believes that an

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interview might expedite prosecution, the examiner is invited to
contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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